

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## GYPSUM IN MARCH 2005

Producers mined 1.47 million metric tons (Mt) of gypsum in March 2005 (table 1). Output was 14% more than that of February 2005 and 6% more than that of March 2004. Synthetic gypsum production was 753,000 metric tons (t) in March 2005 (table 1), which was 10% more than that of February 2005 and 6% more than that of March 2004. Both mined and synthetic gypsum are used as raw material for wallboard. The wallboard industry is the largest domestic consumer of gypsum. During January through February 2005, synthetic gypsum accounted for 1.42 Mt, or about 26%, of the 5.38 Mt supply of gypsum in the United States. Sales of uncalcined gypsum, mainly for portland cement manufacture and for agricultural uses, were 458,000 t (table 2), 7% more than that of February 2005 and 21% more than that of March 2004.

Output of calcined gypsum for March (table 1) was 2.05 Mt, 15% more than that of February 2005 and 3% more than that of March 2004. Sales of board products were about 3.2 billion

square feet (298 million square meters), 20% more than that of February 2005 and 2% more than that of March 2004.

U.S. Government import and export data for March 2005 were not available at the time of publication. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, imports of crude gypsum in February 2005 were 755,000 t (table 3), 2% less than that of January 2005, and 35% more than that of February 2004. Gypsum wallboard imports, principally from Mexico, for January 2005 were 46,000 t, equivalent to 55 million square feet (5.1 million square meters). These imports were 6% less than that of January 2005, and 5% more than that of February 2004. Wallboard exports to 29 countries and territories in February 2005 were 6,900 t, equivalent to 8.3 million square feet (768,000 square meters). These exports were 11% more than those of January 2005 and 41% more than those of February 2004.

All percentages in this report were computed based on unrounded data.

TABLE 1  
GYPSUM SUPPLY<sup>1, 2</sup>

(Metric tons)

	2005			2004
	March	February	January-March	January-March
Crude:				
Mined <sup>3</sup>	1,470,000	1,290,000	3,930,000	4,000,000
Imported <sup>4</sup>	NA	755,000	NA	2,130,000
Exported <sup>4</sup>	NA	16,500	NA	38,900
Synthetic gypsum <sup>5</sup>	753,000	686,000	2,180,000	2,040,000
Total supply	NA	2,710,000	NA	8,130,000
Calcined:				
Produced	2,050,000	1,790,000	5,680,000	5,610,000
Imported <sup>6</sup>	NA	170	NA	1,690
Exported <sup>6</sup>	NA	12,900	NA	180,000
Total supply	NA	1,770,000	NA	5,500,000

NA Not available.

<sup>1</sup>Includes data from the Gypsum Association.

<sup>2</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>3</sup>Some data were estimated from semiannual reports.

<sup>4</sup>Import and export data are for "Gypsum; anhydrite," Harmonized Tariff Schedule 2520.10.0000.

<sup>5</sup>Reported production only.

<sup>6</sup>Import and export data are for "Plaster," Harmonized Tariff Schedule 2520.20.0000.

TABLE 2  
GYPSUM SOLD OR USED BY PRODUCERS, BY USE<sup>1, 2</sup>

(Metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	2005			2004
	March	February	January-March	January-March
Uncalcined <sup>3</sup>				
Portland cement	254,000	232,000	705,000	678,000
Agriculture and miscellaneous	204,000	197,000	599,000	388,000
Total	458,000	429,000	1,300,000	1,070,000
Calcined:				
Board products <sup>4</sup>	2,680,000	2,230,000 <sup>r</sup>	7,140,000	6,970,000
Plaster	15,300	12,300	40,400	41,300
Total	2,690,000	2,250,000	7,180,000	7,020,000 <sup>r</sup>
Board products: (Thousand square feet) <sup>5</sup>				
Regular board	1,990,000	1,660,000	5,310,000	5,140,000
Type X board	942,000	767,000	2,480,000	2,470,000
Other	286,000	248,000	778,000	760,000
Total supply	3,210,000	2,680,000	8,570,000	8,370,000

<sup>r</sup>Revised.

<sup>1</sup>Includes data from the Gypsum Association.

<sup>2</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>3</sup>Does not include synthetic gypsum from electric power plants.

<sup>4</sup>Includes weight of paper and other materials.

<sup>5</sup>One square meter equals 10.78 square feet.

TABLE 3  
CRUDE GYPSUM IMPORTED FOR CONSUMPTION<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons)

Country of origin	2005			2004
	February	January	January-February	January-February
Canada	540,000	533,000	1,070,000	889,000
Dominica	2	--	2	--
Dominican Republic	18,000	--	18,000	18,000
Germany	--	40	40	--
Mexico	106,000	194,000	300,000	290,000
Peru	--	79	79	--
Spain	90,700	42,500	133,000	124,000
United Kingdom	--	--	--	1
Total	755,000	770,000	1,520,000	1,320,000

-- Zero.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 4  
CRUDE GYPSUM IN THE UNITED STATES<sup>1, 2</sup>

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Consumption <sup>3</sup>	Production <sup>4</sup>	Imports <sup>5</sup>	Exports <sup>5</sup>
2004:				
January	2,100	1,350	761	13
February	1,810	1,260	559	12
March	2,180	1,390	806	14
April	2,140	1,400	751	9
May	2,230	1,340	905	11
June	2,200	1,280	936	14
July	2,570	1,580	1,010	14
August	2,240	1,520	735	9
September	2,220	1,390	835	12
October	2,400	1,460	954	14
November	2,360	1,460	920	13
December	2,420	1,480	958	14
January-December	26,900	16,900	10,100	149
2005:				
January	2,220	1,460	770	14
February	2,190	1,460	755	17
March	NA	1,470	NA	NA

NA Not available.

<sup>1</sup>Excludes synthetic gypsum.

<sup>2</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

<sup>3</sup>Consumption calculated by adding the production and imports shown in this table and subtracting the exports shown in this table. Monthly inventory changes are not included.

<sup>4</sup>Production data are from the semiannual gypsum canvasses of the non-wallboard producers, annual canvass of all producers, and from monthly data furnished by the Gypsum Association from the wallboard producers.

<sup>5</sup>Data from U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 5  
SALES OF GYPSUM BOARD PRODUCTS, BY SALES REGIONS<sup>1,2</sup>

(Thousand square feet)<sup>3</sup>

	New England	Middle Atlantic	E. North Central	W. North Central	South Atlantic	E. South Central	W. South Central	Mountain	Pacific	Exports	Total
2005:											
March:											
Veneer base	28,200	2,550	9,240	712	9,610	17	61	286	1,570	--	52,300
Sheathing	1,140	4,010	4,360	6,060	15,300	3,350	10,300	6,190	10,200	1,740	62,700
Regular gypsum board	48,100	161,000	243,000	127,000	591,000	134,000	221,000	201,000	223,000	38,500	1,990,000
Type X gypsum board	29,400	90,500	130,000	72,500	157,000	33,900	94,100	116,000	208,000	9,650	942,000
Predecorated board	390	632	1,010	381	1,310	389	773	234	368	93	5,580
5/16 Mobile home board	--	523	3,740	--	10,300	13,100	6,530	98	304	--	34,600
Water/moisture resistant board	5,980	22,300	17,000	7,240	29,800	4,640	11,700	10,400	17,900	3,970	131,000
Total	113,000	282,000	409,000	214,000	814,000	189,000	345,000	334,000	461,000	54,000	3,210,000
January- March:											
Veneer base	72,400	7,480	23,200	2,360	28,800	83	178	680	3,970	123	139,000
Sheathing	3,120	10,400	11,800	16,500	42,900	8,330	32,900	16,300	24,700	3,480	170,000
Regular gypsum board	127,000	429,000	640,000	344,000	1,610,000	356,000	610,000	529,000	575,000	96,000	5,310,000
Type X gypsum board	78,100	243,000	343,000	189,000	444,000	92,700	258,000	298,000	510,000	20,500	2,480,000
Predecorated board	970	1,750	2,870	1,170	3,630	1,020	2,450	887	1,540	160	16,500
5/16 Mobile home board	--	1,330	13,400	--	28,700	37,900	18,900	520	1,210	38	102,000
Water/moisture resistant board	15,600	58,500	45,400	19,400	81,400	13,800	31,700	27,700	45,700	11,100	350,000
Total	298,000	752,000	1,080,000	572,000	2,240,000	510,000	953,000	873,000	1,160,000	131,000	8,570,000

-- Zero.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>2</sup>Sales region equivalent to U.S. Census Bureau Geographic Division as follows: New England (CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT); Middle Atlantic (NJ, NY, PA); East North Central (IL, IN, MI, OH, WI); West North Central (IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD); South Atlantic (DC, DE, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV); East South Central (AL, KY, MS, TN); West South Central (AR, LA, OK, TX); Mountain (AZ, CO, ID, MT, NM, NV, UT, WY); Pacific (AK, CA, HI, OR, WA).

<sup>3</sup>One square meter equals 10.78 square feet.

Source: Gypsum Association.